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Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 EB-08 OMB-01 TRSE-00 IO-13 NEA-10
/101 W
----------101687 111916Z /46
P 111838Z AUG 77
FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4415
INFO AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

C O N F I D E N T I A L OTTAWA 07322

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP, SU, CA, SO, UR
SUBJECT: VISIT TO CANADA OF SUDAN FM KHALID, JULY 25 -
AUGUST 7

1. SUDANESE FM MANSOUR KHALID PAID OFFICIAL VISIT TO CANADA JULY 25 TO AUGUST 7. VISIT FIRST EVER TO CANADA BY HIGH-RANKING MEMBER OF SUDAN GOVERNMENT AND IT CONSISTED OF THREE DAYS OF BILATERAL TALKS IN OTTAWA FOLLOWED BY TOUR OF SEVERAL PROVINCES.

2. ACCORDING TO FRASER, DIRECTOR MIDDLE EASTERN DIVISION, DEPT EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (EXTAFF), GOC-SUDAN RELATIONS "HAVEN'T AMOUNTED TO MUCH AND STILL DON'T" BUT HE QUICKLY ADDED THAT KHALID MADE VERY IMPRESSIVE PERSONAL SHOWING BOTH WITH THOSE WHOM HE MET AND WITH INTERVIEWS ON NATIONAL TV AND IN TORONTO GLOBE AND MAIL. FRASER ALSO NOTED THAT KHALID'S ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS WITH GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND BUSINESSMEN LIKELY SET STAGE FOR INCREASED GOC DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AND EXPORT OF TECHNOLOGY TO SUDAN. CANADIAN INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AGENCY (CIDA)
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ACTIVELY INTERESTED IN EXPANDING PRESENT SMALL-SCALE DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS AND IS SENDING SURVEY TEAMS TO EX-PLORE LARGER PROJECTS. WHILE NO AGREEMENTS SIGNED DURING VISIT, FRASER INDICATED SOME CANADIAN BUSINESSMEN INTEREST-ED IN EXPORT POTENTIAL, PARTICULARLY OF TECHNOLOGY.

3. DURING BILATERAL POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS, KHALID, ACCORD-

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ING TO FRASER, "MADE NO BONES ABOUT SUDANESE SUPPORT FOR ERITREANS" AND NOTED WITH NEAR GLEE SOVIET PREDICAMENT CAUGHT IN MIDDLE IN SOMALIA-ETHIOPIA CONFLICT. KHALID EXPRESSED VIEW THAT SOVIET INFLUENCE IN AFRICA GENERALLY IS SUFFERING THROUGH THEIR AND CUBAN INTERVENTION. REFERRING TO ETHIOPIAN CONFLICTS BOTH WITH ERITREANS AND SOMALIA, KHALID PREDICTED THAT ETHIOPIA "AS WE KNOW IT" (FRASER'S WORDS) WOULD FALL APART. ON ARAB-ISRAEL SITUATION, KHALID HAD "NOTHING PARTICULARLY ORIGINAL TO SAY", ACCORDING TO FRASER.

4. COMMENT: DESPITE FRASER'S RATHER SARCASTIC (ALTHOUGH PROBABLY REALISTIC) DESCRIPTION OF GOC-SUDAN RELATIONSHIP, KHALID MADE UNUSUALLY FAVORABLE IMPRESSION ON CANADIANS AND, APPARENTLY IN LARGE PART THROUGH STRENGTH OF PERSONALITY AND SALES PITCH, HE APPEARS TO HAVE BUILT GROUNDWORK FOR GROWING RELATIONSHIP. ENDERS

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